Railway Doctors in the Guntakal Division

334S DR. NARREDY THULASI REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be leased to state;

(a) what is the number of railway doctors in Guntakal division in the South Central Railway;

(b) whether Government propose to increase the number of railway doctors in the said division;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) 34.

(b) to (d) 29 additional beds have been sanctioned for the Guntakal Railway Hospital. The question of increasing number of doctors will arise when the work is completed.

Metre-gauge Railway track, in the country

3349. SHRI YELLA SESI BHUSHA-NA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state;

(a what is the length of metre gauge railway track in our country;

(b) what amount is needed for the conversion of the metre gauge tracks int$_0$ broad gauge;

(c) what is the number of diesel metre-gauge locomotives available with the Railways; and

(d) what are the estimated savings from the reduced capital outlay on wagons and the additional recurring charges on the converted system?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER]N THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD); (a) Metre-gauge (as on 31-3-1988):

Total route Km.—23898.04

Total track Km—32575.97

(b) About Rs. 20,000 crores.

(c) 639, as on 31-3-1988.

(d) It is not possible to work out financial implications in such an assumed situation.

Railway Line between Karwar and Hubli

3350. SHRI J. P. JAVALI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that at the time of laying the foundation stone of Project Sea Bird at Karwar, the Prime Minister had announced a railway line between Karwar and Hubli; and

(b) if so, what progress has been made so far in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Carrying of night-soil on head by scavengers in the Railways

3351. SHRI J. P. JAVALI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state;

(a) whehter the practice of carrying night-soil on head by scavengers working in the Railways is still existing in some parts of Karnataka and in some other States;

(b) whether this practice is existing both in the Railway establishments/ stations and in the residential quarters/complexes; and